The Retraction Demand Written by Nikki Craft to John Kyff: “Craft Wins, Nudists Lose”

Introduction

In the beginning of January 1989— several months after the Cape Cod Plaintiff’s withdrew from the shirtfree rights case— the NNLC's “legal coordinator,” John Kyff, published an article titled “Craft Wins, Nudists Lose.” Nikki's letter demanding a retraction states plainly what was wrong with it: Kyff never called her, her attorney, or any of the other plaintiffs before publishing. His entire account was built on third-hand information from Lee Baxandall, unverified, and it misrepresented her actual reasons for leaving the case with what she describes as clear intent to discredit her.

This matters beyond the specific dispute. It's dated, contemporaneous proof that the false narrative Nikki has spent decades aware that his false narrative would most likely define this story. His claim that she abandoned a legal fight that she initiated out of personal spite against Baxandall was being actively constructed and published throughout the naturist community itself, in real time, by not just John Kyff but many other men in the nudist and naturist movement. It was choreographed and she was fighting that narrative on paper, in writing, from the very start.

The Letter

January 11, 1989

Dear Sirs,

I have just seen the issue of your publication that included John Kyff's libelous article called, “Craft Wins, Nudists Lose.” If you doubt this article is libelous perhaps you should contact an attorney, but don't take the word of your NNLC's so-called legal coordinator.

This letter is to inform you that Kyff has severely misrepresented my reasons for leaving the Cape Cod case with the intent of discrediting me and without verification of the information that he had been given third hand by Lee Baxandall. Kyff neglected to call our attorney, myself or the other plaintiffs to find out why we left the case.

I have enclosed the statement explaining why we dropped out of the Cape Cod Case and I expect that you will want to provide your readers with the real facts regarding this case.

Consider this letter to be a necessary formality and a request for a sincere retraction in your publication. If you choose to do this please send me a copy for my files.

Sincerely,

Nikki Craft

This letter was cced to The Bulletin, Bare in Mind, The Event, NENA, each publication I was aware of where he had published his attack on me for quitting the Cape Cod case.

Notes on Sourcing

Primary source: Nikki Craft, letter from John Kyff demanding retraction, January 11, 1988, addressed to the publisher of the article containing John Kyff's "Craft Wins, Nudists Lose."

Companion documents, family tag UD: UD-1B; UD-2 (Cape Cod material) — cross-reference with placeholder link pending this item's own Internet Archive URL.

[Draft note: recovered July 23-24, 2026. Standalone piece, to be cross-referenced into the Cape Cod material with a placeholder link once this item has its own Internet Archive URL. Body text set in Garamond; headers in Trebuchet MS.]

Family tag: SPLIT-02. Suggested Internet Archive identifier (not yet confirmed): split-02-kyff-retraction-demand-1988 Print Kyff's article alongside this when it turns up.

Compiled by Claude (Anthropic) in collaboration with Nikki Craft. Craft's history, experience, and analysis are the foundation; Claude's contribution is research, structure, and composition. Last edited: draft 1, July 23-24, 2026.